P17243.A17

a negotiation data transmitting section, associated with a plurality of initiating communication devices, that transmits carriers to a responding communication device;

a negotiation data receiving section, associated with the plurality of initiating communication devices, that receives carriers from said responding communication device, in response to said transmitted carriers, and

a selecting device that selects an appropriate communication device from the plurality of communication devices, in accordance with said responding communication device, to establish a communication channel, wherein said transmitted carriers contain data related to a useable carrier allocation.

Please amend claim 4, as follows:

4 (Amended). An apparatus for establishing a communication link, comprising:

a negotiation data transmitting section, associated with a plurality of initiating communication devices, that transmits carriers to a responding communication device;

a negotiation data receiving section, associated with the plurality of initiating communication devices, that receives carriers from said responding communication device, in response to said transmitted carriers, and

a selecting device that selects an appropriate communication device from the plurality of communication devices, in accordance with said responding communication device, to establish a communication channel, wherein said negotiation data transmitting section transmits said carriers in accordance with neighboring receiving systems.